

Japan Racing Journal

September 2007

Vol. 15 No. 4

Published by The Japan Association for International Horse Racing

2 ~ 3

**Trainer Katsuhiko Sumii Shares
Thoughts on Racing and the
Love of Horses**

4 ~ 5

**42nd ARF General Study
Program Report**

6 ~ 8

**2007 Sale Report in
Hokkaido**



Niigata Racecourse in mid-summer (Niigata City, Niigata Prefecture)

Trainer Katsuhiko Sumii Shares Thoughts on Racing and the Love of Horses

By Yuka Ashiya

Introduction

Trainer Katsuhiko Sumii's successes in Japan and elsewhere in recent years have been eye opening. He has won numerous graded races in Japan and also fielded Cesario, by Special Week (JPN), to win the 2005 American Oaks. Kane Hekili, by Fuji Kiseki (JPN), subsequent winner of the Japan Cup Dirt and Hat Trick, by Sunday Silence (USA), who traveled to the winner's circle in the Hong Kong Mile victory. He sent Delta Blues, by Dance in the Dark, (JPN) and Pop Rock by Helissio, (FR), down under, where they monopolized the 2006 Melbourne Cup by taking first and second. This year he took Vodka (by Tanino Gimlet, JPN) to the awards ceremony as the first filly in 64 years to win the Japanese Derby. It might not be an exaggeration to say that Sumii is the newest man of the hour in global horse racing. Racing journalist, Ms. Yuka Ashiya interviewed the young trainer to ask about his perspectives and thoughts on racing



Trainer Katsuhiko Sumii. Behind him, a painting commemorating the one-two finish in the 2006 Melbourne Cup (GI) by Delta Blues and Pop Rock.

Ashiya: It has been seven years since you became licensed as a trainer. You already have amassed 13 Group I wins, including wins in overseas group races, local government races and races, which up until last year, were Japanese GI races. Your goal from the outset seems to have been to train horses that could compete worldwide. How do you see your own successes, both in Japan and overseas?

Sumii: First of all, I think that it has been being able for us as a stable to be able to work together toward our goals as a team. The staff understanding my

training philosophies and producing results has in turn enabled me to gain more confidence in my way of raising and training horses and in myself. Individual staff members have specific horses for which they are responsible and look after at my stable, but I try to arrange it so that everyone is involved in some way, with all the horses, so that we can go into races as a team. I don't believe that any of the staff have any doubts regarding their job and can work totally independent. They are hard working and moreover, they not only do just what they are told,

but think and act for themselves. They provide inputs and proposals that they feel are suitable for their respective horses. I am able to respond to these as appropriate.

Ashiya: Then your fundamentals of training are working as a group, use of walking and mental training?

Sumii: That's right. We don't have them train on the uphill track* more than once a day and workouts are also done at just five furlongs. We spend two hours on walking in contrast. We get a horse in shape by having a person ride it, so it always has a load on its back and then having it walk at a fairly fast pace. This is because a horse gets into shape naturally. If you try to get it into shape with hard training, you just wear the horse out. Horses also learn from other horses when we have them run and walk together in a group. The use of horses with high ability as training partners is also very important in elevating the stable's overall strengths. Young horses learn how to behave and run from older horses and will try as hard as they can to keep up with more talented older horses. Also, by use of single file training, we teach self-control to the horses at the end of the line. It also instills the horses up front with the temperament not to give up when overtaken by horses from the rear and teaches them to pass them again and regain the lead. There are certain difficulties in conducting

training on the limited space at Japan's training tracks and being surrounded by many other horses, including those from other stables, but there is merit in the fact that it strengthens the horses mentally.

*The uphill training course at Ritto Training Center is a 1,085 meter wood chip surface, seven meters wide that varies in elevation by 32 meters from lowest to highest points.

Ashiya: You switch horses back and forth from the stable to the spelling farm a lot, don't you?

Sumii: Yes. Even when a horse places second or third and I think that it might be able to win in the near future, I never want to force the issue by entering it in a race too soon. I will send it to pasture if I sense that it's even just a little bit tired. This is because once a horse is worn out, it takes time to recover. Sometimes the stable's stalls are empty because we send horses out to pasture so frequently. However, if we can get them refreshed quickly, we can bring them back to the training center (stables) right away. This is also important in the sense of providing a change of pace in horses' lives because giving them a change of mood is also another type of training.

Ashiya: As a horseman who has become familiar with racing overseas, how do you feel about Japan's horse racing industry?

Sumii: I'm affiliated with the Japan Racing Association (JRA) and I think the environment is quite beneficial. JRA provides all the excellent facilities and the Horse Racing School connected with JRA trains highly competent jockeys, assistant trainers, and lads. JRA subsidizes domestic travel expenses. Also, most expenses, such as the feed costs and staff overhead, which are incurred in running the stable, are included in the deposit paid by horse owners. This allows a trainer



Sumii vied valiantly with filly Vodka in this spring's Japanese Derby, capturing the crown spectacularly.

to concentrate entirely on preparing horses for races.

Ashiya: What do you keep in mind when you are to travel overseas?

Sumii: First, I ask trainers who have previously traveled to that country, or racecourse about examples and the rules, gathering as much information as I can about the location, because the racing environment of Japan and that of other countries are different from the outset. For example, there isn't anywhere to wash down the horse at overseas tracks as we have in Japan. There might only be some rubber padding laid down and sometimes not even a shower unit for the horse. When there isn't one, the staff must draw hot water in buckets to wash the horse. There are also various differences when it comes to training and in some instances you don't know what you can or can't do until you actually arrive there. However, if staff were to get ruffled by those sorts of problems, the horse senses it acutely and can also get upset. That then leads to possibilities that the horse's mental and physical rhythm can be disrupted. We want to avoid this and so for example, in the case of the lack of a washing area, we practice by not using the washing area while we are still in Japan. If we are going to a track that doesn't have an uphill training track, we put together the training program only using the flat track while still in Japan. After these sorts of meticulous preparations the staff arrive in country one or two days before the horse and check whether the plans we have

put together in advance can be implemented as scheduled. If we can't, we respond flexibly with the necessary changes. I employ Keita Tanaka as our racing manager. He can speak English and this of course, is indispensable for our on the scene coordination. This also allows for staff to feel at ease and devote themselves to their own jobs. I also think that one factor that has led to our good results is that the staff have also become accustomed to overseas travel and have accumulated vast experience in international traveling of the horses and racing.

Ashiya: What about transporting racehorses? I should think that there would be many different issues, such as the climate in the country and at transit points and the differences in the temperature in the plane and outdoors.

Sumii: This is correct. Also, travel is difficult in some cases because of flight schedules and routes of the airline companies. I would like to enter Delta Blues and Pop Rock in the Melbourne Cup (GI) again this year, but it seems that the convenient flight we were able to use for last year's route, is going to be cut from the flight schedule. We might not be able to go this year if this is the case. This is not an invitational race, so the horse owner would have to charter a cargo plane on his own, generating a tremendous expense. We went to the Dubai World Cup (GI) in March this year by charter flight and incurred considerable travel expenses, at that time, but that was an invitational event and the organizers provided a subsidy for horse transportation. Splitting the cost among the five Japanese horses that flew together ended up being a comparatively inexpensive



Sumii also trained 2005 Japan Cup Dirt (GI) victor Kane Hekili.



2006 Melbourne Cup (GI) victor Delta Blues also won the 2004 Kikuka Sho (Japanese St. Leger).

amount per horse. In any case, traveling takes cash.

Ashiya: If you could eliminate those issues, travel would become easier and more horses from other countries would be able to come to Japan.

Sumii: That's right. I would also like to see horses from other stables take on the challenge of other countries, as well, because I think they do have a chance. But, I do wonder about Japan-trained horses when it comes to the dirt tracks in the U.S., and the turf tracks in Europe, both of which requires a lot of strength.

Ashiya: You had plans to enter the Japanese Derby winner Vodka (a 3-Y-O filly) in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe in France this fall, didn't you? You had to withdraw due to the effects of an inflamed heel.

Sumii: If we had entered her as planned we would have doubtless sent her to France early and got her used to the

tracks over there that requires so much power. That's because, by so doing, the horse's body can put on the muscle to match the track and will come to run in a way more suited to these tracks.

Ashiya: You build your foundations prudently and head to a major race scrupulously prepared. It is there that I get a sense of your love for horses.

Sumii: The horses give it their all and I want to give them the best of loving care. That's different from spoiling them. The world of racehorses is tough and those that can make it to the top levels are few, but they all try their best. So to that end, I want to make them into horses that can also return to the pasture for a breeding career. They have to achieve top results as racehorses to do that and toughness is required in order to achieve such results. I feel I must try to work at the highest levels so that our team can win, but at the same time to not forget these horses that have worked so hard for me in the past.

Ashiya: I'm looking forward to even more worldwide recognition for you and your career in the future.

Sumii: Thank you very much. You know

that they used to treat me as a guest overseas, opening the track up for training at different time slots, even more than for the local horses, but now that we've had some success, that doesn't happen anymore. (Laughs) However, I want to continue taking on the challenges internationally. That was my dream even before becoming a trainer. Adding international travel to the schedule during the course of the year is good because I am able continue to maintain a feeling of the spirit of competition in directing the stable's overall work load. I hope that in the end it will turn out that the staff will be able to be successful even in stables overseas when they are no longer under my wing.

Reporter's postscript

Katsuhiko Sumii gives an impression of being incredibly quiet and is not just kind toward horses and people, but is also unceasingly concerned about the mental aspects for both. Moreover, any existing framework does not shackle his thinking: he has the courage not to fear failure and possesses a global vision. He is an expert horseman who was born in Japan and at the same time is an excellent equine scholar, psychologist, and adventurer. While young at age 43, it is no exaggeration to say that he is a trainer who could well change the direction of Japan's horseracing industry.

42nd ARF General Study Program Report

Participants from 12 countries—Australia, Bahrain, Hong Kong, India, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, the

Philippines, Singapore, South Africa, Thailand and Turkey—took part in the annual ARF general study program over a 12-day period, from May 29 to June 9, 2007. The schedule for the program is shown in the accompanying table. A multifaceted program was put together for the short duration, but the participants showed no signs of weariness, eagerly listening to the explanations and lectures at the training sites, while taking copious notes.

The participants were also observed holding lively discussions on the commonalities and differences between the racing systems of their own country and others. They continued these comments during breaks and on the bus between venues, as well as exchanging numerous questions and answers between the staff and their colleagues. We had highlighted only some of the comments below, but as far as we could be determined, the 2007 ARF general study program appeared to be a hit. This of course put our minds at ease at JAIR.



Participants view stallions at JBBA Shizunai Stallion Station.

Now the work starts to try to make the training even better for next year. We hope that this program will continue to contribute to the advancement of all of our racing in the ARF.

The ARF general study program was inaugurated in 1966 and celebrated its 42nd year this year. It was developed upon the concept of the indispensable role that cross-border interpersonal action plays in facilitating liaisons and cooperation among countries that conduct horse racing. We recognize the need for these interactions if worldwide racing is to continue to develop as an international sport. More than 300 participants, many of who are now in executive positions in various countries' racing authorities, have completed the ARF general study program during these 42 years. We would like to hope that the ARF general study program has provided an integral part in horse racing's growth and development across the ARF.



Participants eagerly listening to lecture.



The Miho Training Center stable snapshot.

DATE	PROGRAM	PLACE	LODGING
May 29 Tue.	Participants arrive in Japan	NARITA AIRPORT	TOKYO
May 30 Wed.	JRA Orientation Lectures	JRA MAIN OFFICE	TOKYO
May 31 Thu.	JRA Lectures Presentations by each participant Reception	JRA MAIN OFFICE JRA HEADQUARTERS	TOKYO
June 1 Fri.	Free		TOKYO
June 2 Sat.	Study tour to related facilities	WINS (Off-Course Betting Facility), COLLATION CENTER, GREEN CHANNEL	TOKYO
June 3 Sun.	Study tour (race meeting)	JRA TOKYO RACECOURSE, JRA RACING MUSEUM	TOKYO
June 4 Mon.	Study tour (Stud farms in Hokkaido)	SHADAI STALLION STATION, SHIZUNAI STALLION STATION	HOKKAIDO
June 5 Tue.	Study tour & back to Tokyo (Stud & breeding farms)	JRA HIDAKA YEARLING TRAINING FARM, SHIMOKOBE FARM	TOKYO
June 6 Wed.	Study tour (JRA Horseracing School)	JRA HORSE RACING SCHOOL, RACING FEED & FODDER Co., Ltd., JAPAN HORSE MOTOR TRANSPORT Co., Ltd.	MIHO
June 7 Thu.	Study tour (Miho Training Center), Study tour to Ohi Racecourse Lecture by NAR	JRA MIHO TRAINING CENTER, OHI RACECOURSE	TOKYO
June 8 Fri.	Critique of Program, Farewell luncheon	JRA MAIN OFFICE	TOKYO
June 9 Sat.	Participants depart	NARITA AIRPORT	TOKYO

*NAR stands for the National Association of Racing (Racing by Local Governments).

Comments from Participants

"I have never seen anything like the passion Japanese race fans show. Seeing the crowd waving newspapers when the starter waved his flag was very impressive. The fans are really into the sport."

"The facilities provided for the trainers at the training centers were excellent."

"WINS off-track betting centers are so well designed, they are just like mini race courses, but without the track."

"My only comment is that I hope JRA will continue the general study tour. It is a whirlwind two weeks but I learned so much about the Japanese racing industry as well as the people and the culture. Moreover, the tour is invaluable for the contacts and friendships made between the participants, an opportunity that most would not have if it were not for this tour."

"The schedule was followed to the minute, and no time was wasted during the program, much to my contentment. The modules were detailed enough to become references for the future."

Japanese Principal Race Result

48th The Takarazuka Kinen(GI)

Hanshin Racecourse, June 24, 2007
 Value of race: ¥256,720,000
 3-year-olds & up, International
 2200m, Turf Good, Drizzle
 2:12:4 (Course record 2:10:9)
 18 runners
 Pari-mutuel handle: ¥32,848,043,200
 On-course 3.6%
 Off-course 96.4%
 Takarazuka Kinen only: ¥25,263,608,800
 Attendance: 63,580
 1st: Admire Moon Yasunari Iwata, 58.0kg b.c.4,
 Endsweep – My Katies by Sunday Silence,
 O-Riichi Kondo T-Hiroyoshi Matsuda B-Northern
 Racing,
 Winning money: ¥135,864,000
 2nd: Meisho Samson Mamoru Ishibashi, 58.0kg b.c.4,
 Opera House – My Vivien by Dancing Brave,
 3rd: Pop Rock Yutaka Take, 58.0kg b.h.6,
 Helissio – Pops by Sunday Silence

2007 Sale Report in Hokkaido

By Masayuki Itoh, Japan Bloodhorse Breeders' Association

2007 Hokkaido Selection Sale (Yearlings) Report

The Hidaka Horse Breeders' Association held its select Thoroughbred yearling sale at the JBBA Hokkaido Sales Complex in Shinhidaka on July the 16th. Of the 197 lots offered (135 colts and 62 fillies), 128 were sold (90 colts and 38 fillies), resulting in a 65% sales ratio, 3.8 percentage points above the year before and the highest tally since the event became a Selection Sale. Sales proceeds of ¥1,582,350,000 were a record high, surpassing even that of the event's forerunner, the Hokkaido Special Sale. This meant that the one-billion-yen level has now been maintained for four years running, which is a healthy trend. The average price of ¥12,362,109 was up 15.6% over last year in a substantial rise and the median price of ¥9,030,000 exceeded last year by 4.9% as well. FDO of Tokyo purchased the highest-priced colt, by Forty Niner (USA) out of Incurable Romantic (USA), for ¥63,000,000. Dr. K.C. Tan of Singapore bought the top-priced filly, by Forty Niner out of Machikane Aida (USA), for ¥22,575,000. Forty Niner had the top average sales price among stallions at ¥42,787,500, followed by Singspiel at ¥23,100,000 and King Kamehameha at ¥21,945,000. JRA was the only organization making purchases, and bought seven colts and seven fillies for a total of ¥145,845,000. A buyers' syndicate from Singapore bought three fillies for a total of ¥37,380,000.



Top-priced colt, by Forty Niner (USA) out of Incurable Romantic (USA)



Top-priced filly, by Forty Niner (USA) out of Machikane Aida (USA)

Results of Hokkaido Selection Sale (Yearlings) 2007

Date: 16, July 2007

Location: JBBA Hokkaido Sales Complex (Shin Hidaka-cho, Hokkaido)

Type of Horse: Thoroughbred Yearlings

Purchaser	Number of Purchased		Total Sales (¥)	The Most Expensive (¥)		The Cheapest (¥)		Average price (¥)	
General Public	Colt	83	1,197,315,500	Colt	63,000,000	Colt	3,675,000	Colt	14,425,481
	Filly	31	239,190,000	Filly	22,575,000	Filly	1,680,000	Filly	7,715,806
	Total	114	1,436,505,000	Total	63,000,000	Total	1,680,000	Total	12,600,921
Japan Racing Association	Colt	7	88,515,000	Colt	18,375,000	Colt	6,510,000	Colt	12,645,000
	Filly	7	57,330,000	Filly	11,025,000	Filly	6,195,000	Filly	8,190,000
	Total	14	145,845,000	Total	18,375,000	Total	6,195,000	Total	10,417,500
Total	Colt	90	1,285,830,000	Colt	63,000,000	Colt	3,675,000	Colt	14,287,000
	Filly	38	296,520,000	Filly	22,575,000	Filly	1,680,000	Filly	7,803,157
	Total	128	1,582,350,000	Total	63,000,000	Total	1,680,000	Total	12,362,109

The above chart was provided by the Japan Bloodhorse Breeders' Association.

2007 Hokkaido Selection Sale (Foals) Report

The Hidaka Horse Breeders' Association held its select Thoroughbred foal sale at the JBBA Hokkaido Sales Complex in Shinhidaka on July the 17th. Of the 193 lots offered (132 colts and 61 fillies), 72 were sold (54 colts and 18 fillies), resulting in a 37.3% sales ratio, 3.8 percentage points below last year. Total sales proceeds of ¥830,865,000 fell short of last year by 9.5%. The average price of ¥11,539,791 was also down 13.3%, and the median price of ¥10,552,500 was down 9.5%, as well. Satoshi Oshima of Saitama Prefecture purchased the highest-priced colt, by Agnes Tachyon out of Megumi Governor, for ¥31,500,000. Shinhidaka's Mitsuishi Kawakami Bokujo bought the top-priced filly, by Tanino Gimlet out of Dramatic Rose (USA), for ¥15,330,000. Agnes Tachyon had the top average sales price among sires at ¥25,200,000, followed by Sakura Bakushin O at ¥20,055,000 and Brian's Time (USA) at ¥19,425,000. Among the new sires making their debut at the auction, Stravinsky captured the top spot with ¥12,862,500, followed by Zenno Rob Roy at ¥12,425,000 and Roses in May (USA) at ¥11,550,000.

The previous day's Selection Sale for yearlings went well and had record sales, but the foal sale ended up a bit slack.



Top-priced colt, by Agnes Tachyon out of Megumi Governor



Top-priced filly, by Tanino Gimlet out of Dramatic Rose (USA)

Results of Hokkaido Selection Sale (Foals) 2007

Date: 17, July 2007

Location: JBBA Hokkaido Sales Complex (Shin Hidaka-cho, Hokkaido)

Type of Horse: Thoroughbred Foals

Purchaser	Number of Purchased		Total Sales (¥)	The Most Expensive (¥)		The Cheapest (¥)		Average price (¥)	
General Public	Colt	54	684,075,000	Colt	31,500,000	Colt	4,200,000	Colt	12,668,055
	Filly	18	146,790,000	Filly	15,330,000	Filly	3,150,000	Filly	8,155,000
	Total	72	830,865,000	Total	31,500,000	Total	3,150,000	Total	11,539,791
Total	Colt	54	684,075,000	Colt	31,500,000	Colt	4,200,000	Colt	12,668,055
	Filly	18	146,790,000	Filly	15,330,000	Filly	3,150,000	Filly	8,155,000
	Total	72	830,865,000	Total	31,500,000	Total	3,150,000	Total	11,539,791

The above chart was provided by the Japan Bloodhorse Breeders' Association.

2007 Select Sale (Yearlings) Report

In the second year since restarting its Select Sale, the Japan Racing Horse Association held its yearling auction at Northern Horse Park in Tomakomai on July the 19th. Of the 150 lots offered (99 colts and 51 fillies), 108 (72 colts and 36 fillies) were sold, resulting in a 72% sales ratio. Gross proceeds came to ¥3,448,620,000. The average price of ¥31,931,666 was down 2.9% from last year and the median price of ¥18,112,500 was down 17.9%. Osaka Prefecture's Riichi Kondo paid a record price of ¥262,500,000 for the top-valued colt, a younger half brother of G1 Dubai Duty Free winner Admire Moon, by French Deputy (USA) out of My Katies. Kaneko Makoto Holdings paid ¥53,550,000 for the top-priced filly, imported in utero, by Dubai Destination out of Velvet Queen (GB).

Japanese sires occupied the top places among sires in a change from last year, with Dance in the Dark in first with an average sales price of ¥141,750,000, followed by French Deputy at ¥83,727,000, Fusaichi Concorde at 74,550,000 and Jungle Pocket at ¥68,250,000.

The sale organizers expressed the opinion that "this yearling sale is gaining acceptance among buyers and sellers alike, as we were able to maintain sales similar in scope to the previous year's along with a sales ratio that exceeded that the year before by 5.9 percentage points."



Top-priced colt, by French Deputy (USA) out of My Katies



Top-priced filly, by Dubai Destination (USA) out of Velvet Queen (GB)

Results of Select Sale (Yearlings) 2007

Date: 9, July 2007

Location: Northern Horse Park (Tomakomai- City, Hokkaido)

Type of Horse: Thoroughbred Yearlings

Purchaser	Number of Purchased		Total Sales (¥)	The Most Expensive (¥)		The Cheapest (¥)		Average price (¥)	
General Public	Colt	70	2,804,760,000	Colt	262,500,000	Colt	6,300,000	Colt	40,068,000
	Filly	35	589,260,000	Filly	53,550,000	Filly	6,300,000	Filly	16,836,000
	Total	105	3,394,020,000	Total	262,500,000	Total	6,300,000	Total	32,324,000
The Hong Kong Jockey Club	Colt	1	33,600,000	Colt	33,600,000	Colt	33,600,000	Colt	33,600,000
	Filly	0	0	Filly	—	Filly	—	Filly	—
	Total	1	33,600,000	Total	33,600,000	Total	33,600,000	Total	33,600,000
Japan Racing Association	Colt	1	12,600,000	Colt	12,600,000	Colt	12,600,000	Colt	12,600,000
	Filly	1	8,400,000	Filly	8,400,000	Filly	8,400,000	Filly	8,400,000
	Total	2	21,000,000	Total	12,600,000	Total	8,400,000	Total	10,500,000
Total	Colt	72	2,850,960,000	Colt	262,500,000	Colt	6,300,000	Colt	39,596,666
	Filly	36	597,660,000	Filly	53,550,000	Filly	6,300,000	Filly	16,601,666
	Total	108	3,448,620,000	Total	262,500,000	Total	6,300,000	Total	31,931,666

The above chart was provided by the Japan Bloodhorse Breeders' Association.

2007 Select Sale (Foals) Report

The Japan Racing Horse Association held its select foal sale at Northern Horse Park in Tomakomai on July the 10th and 11th. Of the 317 lots offered (236 colts and 81 fillies), 240 were sold (177 colts and 63 fillies), resulting in a 75.7% sales ratio. This was the fourth time in a decade since the event's inception that a sales ratio of more than 75% was achieved. Total sales proceeds of ¥8,707,125,000 declined 0.6% compared to last year. The average price of ¥36,279,687 was down 8.4% year-on-year, and the median price of ¥27,300,000 was the same as the last year. Riichi Kondo of Osaka Prefecture purchased the top-priced colt, by Kurofune (USA) out of My Katies, for ¥315,000,000. The colt was the half brother of the colt that fetched a record price at the yearling sale. Grand Prix of Osaka Prefecture bought the top-priced filly, by Agnes Tachyon out of Manfath (IRE the dam of King Kamehameha) for ¥126,000,000.

In a continuing trend, not much excitement was generated in the bidding for the offspring of debut sires this year, with a colt by Zenno Rob Roy bringing the highest price of ¥105,000,000 and a filly by Durandel ¥73,500,000.

Horses imported in uterus captured the highest price for the third year running, with Kingmambo following in the footsteps of Motivator and Pivotal and topping sires with the best average price of ¥115,500,000. Brian's Time (USA) had the highest average price of ¥73,500,000 among domestic sires, followed by Agnes Tachyon at ¥58,898,437 and Kurofune at ¥54,279,166.

Although failing to achieve a fifth consecutive year of record gross sales, the sale turned out to be hard-fought with good bidding competition throughout and a broader range of price bands than ever, as shown by a sales ratio that was three percentage points higher than the last year. The sale organizers commented, "It was good to reconfirm the feeling of trust toward this sale in a year that marks our ten-year anniversary. Although there were not any exceedingly high-priced lots, the horses on offer were well-rated individually, and the results were linked to the many buyers who participated in multiple auctions."

Results of Select Sale (Foals) 2007

Date: 10-11, July 2007

Location: Northern Horse Park (Tomakomai- City, Hokkaido)

Type of Horse: Thoroughbred Foals



Top-priced colt, by Kurofune (USA) out of My Katies



Top-priced filly, by Agnes Tachyon out of Manfath (IRE)

Purchaser	Number of Purchased	Total Sales (¥)	The Most Expensive (¥)	The Cheapest (¥)	Average price (¥)
General Public	Colt	177	7,366,275,000	Colt	315,000,000
	Filly	63	1,340,850,000	Filly	126,000,000
	Total	240	8,707,125,000	Total	315,000,000
Total	Colt	177	7,366,275,000	Colt	315,000,000
	Filly	63	1,340,850,000	Filly	126,000,000
	Total	240	8,707,125,000	Total	315,000,000

The above chart was provided by the Japan Bloodhorse Breeders' Association.

2007 Hokkaido Training Sale Report

The Hidaka Horse Breeders' Association hosted its Hokkaido Training Sale at JRA Sapporo Racecourse on June the 25th. Most horses completed their exhibition laps within the 11-second range, with six setting marks in the 10-second range. A Hector Protector (USA) colt produced the top time of 10.66 seconds.

Of the 125 lots offered (71 colts and 54 fillies), 82 (47 colts and 35 fillies) were sold. This set a record sales ratio of 65.6%. Total sales were ¥455,175,000 (down 13.9% from last year) and the average price was ¥5,550,914 (a 13.9% drop). The highest-priced colt, by Hector Protector out of Mori Fairy, was purchased by Niikappu's Big Red Farm for a record ¥36,750,000. The highest-priced filly, by Boston Harbor (USA) out of On Cloud Nine (USA), was purchased by Takaya Shimakawa of Miyagi Prefecture for ¥10,500,000.

Also, numerous overseas buyers participated, with the Korea Racing Authority winning bids on four lots (one colt and three fillies), a Malaysian syndicate bought seven lots (five colts and two fillies) and a Singapore buyer purchased one colt.

Results of Hokkaido Training Sale 2007

Date: 25, June 2007

Location: JRA Sapporo Racecourse (Sapporo-City, Hokkaido)

Type of Horse: Thoroughbred 2-Y-O's



Top-priced colt, by Hector Protector (USA) out of Mori Fairy



Top-priced filly, by Boston Harbor (USA) out of On Cloud Nine (USA)

Purchaser	Number of Purchased	Total Sales (¥)	The Most Expensive (¥)	The Cheapest (¥)	Average price (¥)
General Public	Colt	36	242,550,000	Colt	36,750,000
	Filly	26	135,135,000	Filly	10,500,000
	Total	62	377,685,000	Total	36,750,000
JBBA	Colt	2	13,125,000	Colt	7,875,000
	Filly	0	0	Filly	—
	Total	2	13,125,000	Total	7,875,000
Iwate Prefecture Horseowners' Association	Colt	8	34,440,000	Colt	5,775,000
	Filly	6	21,525,000	Filly	4,725,000
	Total	14	55,965,000	Total	5,775,000
Korea Racing Authority	Colt	1	2,100,000	Colt	2,100,000
	Filly	3	6,300,000	Filly	2,100,000
	Total	4	8,400,000	Total	2,100,000
Total	Colt	47	292,215,000	Colt	36,750,000
	Filly	35	162,960,000	Filly	10,500,000
	Total	82	455,175,000	Total	36,750,000

The above chart was provided by the Japan Bloodhorse Breeders' Association.



Japan Racing Journal Vol. 15 No. 4 Issue 87

The Japan Association for International Horse Racing

JRA Bldg., 1-19, Nishi Shimbashi 1-Chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-0003, Japan Tel. +81-3-3503-8221 Fax. +81-3-3503-8226
<http://www.jair.jrao.ne.jp/> Horse Racing in Japan website: <http://japanracing.jp/>

All Rights Reserved

Printed in Japan